GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4299
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2016
Digitisation of Manuscripts
Kesineni Shri Srinivas

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether our country has the largest collection of manuscripts in the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the existing policy of the Government for preservation/ conservation and digitisation of the manuscript heritage of the country along with the latest technology for storing these manuscripts;

(c) the total number of manuscripts documented, digitized and preserved till date along with the number of libraries which have the latest technology;

(d) the funds allocated by the Government in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year, State-UT-wise and the time by which all the manuscripts are likely to be digitized; and

(e) whether the Government is planning to make it accessible to the common public and students through special portals and if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR CULTURE & TOURISM
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a)to(c): Yes, Madam. As per our estimates India has the largest collection of Manuscripts. Ministry of Culture, Government of India has established National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) during 2003 to document, conserve and preserve the Manuscripts. NMM has documented 42 lakh Manuscripts, digitized 250 lakh pages of Manuscripts and conserved 3.47 crore folios of manuscripts so far.

(d): State wise details of expenditure incurred during last three years are given in enclosed Annexure. No time limit can be prescribed, since it is an ongoing process.

(e): Yes, Madam. In this regard the work of developing search engine by the NIC for establishment of e-reading room is in testing face. Initially it will be set up for 10 users. The scholars would be able to search and access the manuscripts digital images for visual purpose. NIC is also engaged in upgradation of the e-granthavali Manuscripts data entry software which will be made web based to facilitate online data entry.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 4299
Due for answer on 12.12.2016.

National Mission for Manuscripts
Statewise reimbursement of expenses incurred on Documentation, Conservation ,
Workshop and Seminar

S. No.	State	Grant released in 2013-14	Grant released in 2014-15	Grant released in 2015-16	Grant released in till 21-11-2016
1	Andhra Pradesh	35.43	15.00	9.50	10.00
2	Assam	11.80	9.54	10.50	4.50
3	Bihar	30.00	28.50	33.00	11.50
4	Delhi	9.29	8.00	16.50	
5	Gujrat	7.00	2.50		
6	Haryana	18.70	7.00	11.90	
7	Himachal Pradesh	18.00	23.00	14.00	16.50
8	Jammu & Kashmir	21.50	16.50	21.00	13.50
9	Karnataka	32.90	21.50	27.28	23.40
10	Kerala	15.75	21.00	21.00	15.50
11	Madhya Pradesh	13.25	11.50	7.00	4.50
12	Maharastra	13.35	4.50	13.15	13.50
13	Manipur	12.00	14.50	7.50	2.50
14	Odisha	57.50	43.50	35.91	16.37
15	Punjab	4.24			

16	Rajasthan	24.70	14.50	13.58	14.50
17	Sikkim	3.30	2.64	0.49	
18	Tamilnadu	63.70	51.00	14.00	
19	Tripura	5.00	2.50	10.00	
20	Uttar Pradesh	83.85	67.06	50.00	40.08
21	Uttrakhand	5.00	15.00	19.00	2.50
22	West Bengal	16.00	16.00	21.39	
Total		495.26	375.10	321.06	251.63